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Dr. Baldwin received his B.S. and Ph.D. in plasma physics from MIT in 1958 and 1962, respectively. From 1962 to 1970 he held research and faculty positions at Stanford University, Culham Laboratory (England), and Yale University. In 1970 he joined Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) as a theoretical plasma physicist for Magnetic Fusion Energy (MFE) and in 1983 became Deputy Associate Director for MFE. In 1988 he was named Professor of Physics and Director of the Institute for Fusion Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. He returned to LLNL in 1991 in as Associate Director for Energy. Since 1995, he has been a Senior Vice-President, Energy Group, General Atomics (GA) in San Diego.

The GA Energy Group activities include hosting the DIII-D National (tokamak) Fusion Facility and its supporting theory and computations, technology, fusion materials and diagnostic development; GA's participation in the international ITER project; target fabrication and handling for the U.S. DOE Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF) Program; and High-Temperature Gas Reactor development for both electricity and hydrogen production, together with the necessary supporting technologies. The Energy Group's Photonics Division develops ultra-short-pulse microwave- and optical-frequency devices for a variety of defense and commercial applications. The Group is also known as one of the leading providers of high power microwave systems, fusion technology, and tokamak engineering and design to the international marketplace.

Dr. Baldwin is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and in 1988 served as Chair of the Division of Plasma Physics. He has also served as technical editor for plasma physics for several scientific journals.